



Gracies Dinnertime Theatre

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So long baldy!



A Quick Grammar Lesson

By Matthew Denker

Alright everyone, listen up. We just wanted to teach you a few neat little things about the English language. Our impetus, if you really must know, was a recent editing extravaganza that we couldn't possibly get to escape our minds. So without further adieu: Grammar!

1. Combining sentences

Sentences are rather amazing things. You see, they allow you to express a complete thought. What you are reading now is a sentence. Amazing, huh? Well, you can also put them together. For example: This is a sentence, and so is this. Amazing, right? Well, some people don't like to use the word *and* all the time (as opposed to those who like to use it ALL the time). If you're one of those anti-and people, that's OK. There happens to be a tool for you. Unfortunately, it's more complicated than the comma. If you could just stick sentences together with commas, well, that would be great. Unfortunately, you can't. What you CAN do is use the mighty semi-colon. To think, you've always had that key on your keyboard and not known what to do with it. Here, check this out. Say you wanted to say that you like books, and also want to sleep with your best friend's sister. You could express it with phrases like that, or you could do this: I like books; I most certainly do want to sleep with my best friend's sister. I know, amazing. Professors will be impressed with you mastery of the English language as much as your friends.

2. Using the right words

I wish everyone knew how to do this by now, but

unfortunately, it seems to be a little more difficult than I thought. You see, it is important to use the correct word for the correct sentence. Otherwise, you don't say what you mean. This is really key for those of you who go around claiming to be self-defecating; I suspect you might instead be a fan of self-defamation. On top of that, you should be careful that you are bordering and not burgeoning, because really, you've grown quite enough.

3. Building a sentence

Sentences are tricky fiends. Not just connecting them, as I showed you above, but also just writing them. There is always the chance that you will put a nonsensical set of words together. That's dangerous. Unlike giving the wrong meaning, as above, you instead give no meaning at all. Take the following "sentence:" I think out donkeys are our friends. There you have it! No meaning whatsoever! I know what you're thinking: how could this happen to me? Well it can, and it does. It happens to the best of us. Sometimes you just need to take a deep breath and look over all those words you just blew all over the page like so many rounds of gunfire and ponder. When you do that, it all becomes clear exactly what happened and you can fix anything that went wrong. We invented word processors because stone is ungainly.

Well folks, I really hope you enjoyed this week's grammar lesson. We will cover dashes, ellipses, and fragments in the next *GDT Grammar Lesson*TM. We hope this has helped.

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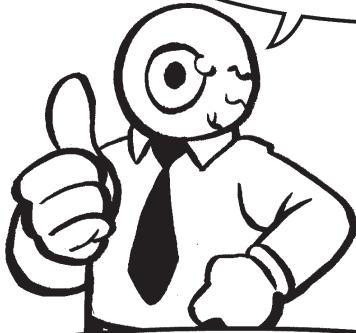
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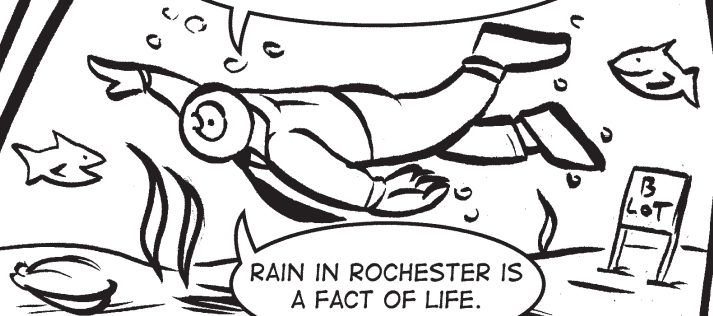
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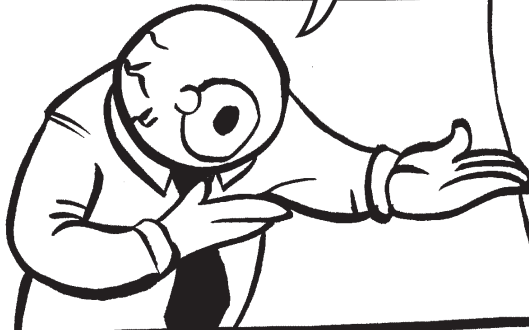
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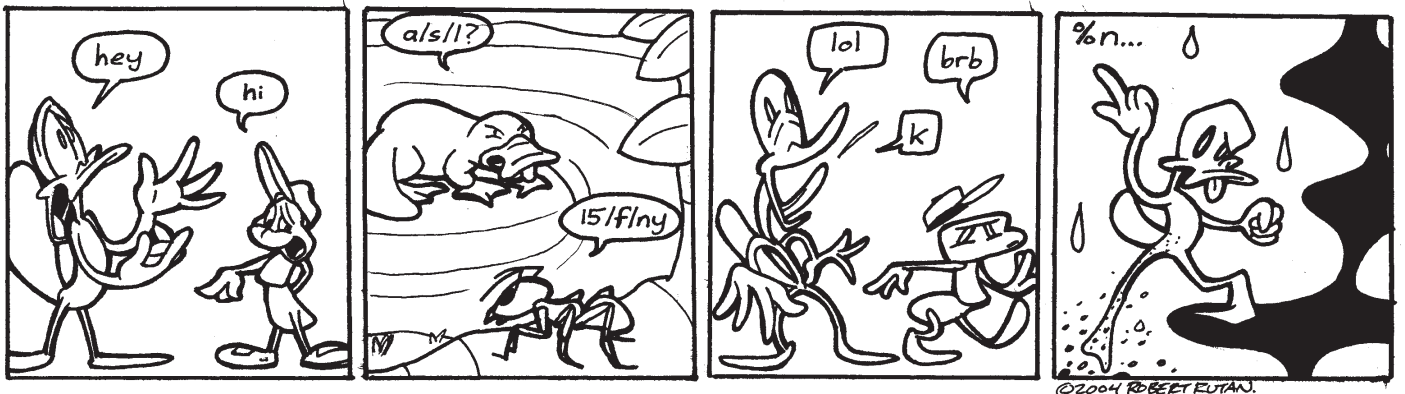


IT IS NOT OKAY TO CLIMB THE SENTINEL!

Photo by Frederico Dahnkaya

The Traveling Platypus

By Bob Rutan



GDT Literary Unscramble Contest

Come On People! You Can Win \$20!

Last week, we printed *GDT*'s newest, and possibly last contest. And even though we guaranteed the winner fame and fortune[®], we have yet to receive one submission[¥]. I know what you're thinking: this is another one of *GDT*'s impossible puzzles, or that there isn't really a prize. Well, you're wrong, sucker! This is a real and solvable contest with a real prize. Despite barely having enough money to print this great magazine, we're offering you a nice \$20 to help fill the void left by RIT sucking you dry. Thank those people at Dante Corp. (a subsidiary of Hell Inc.) for having nothing better to spend their money on.

So dust off those old literature books[¢] and find your way to the Wallace library that you've heard so much about[§]. It's simple! Just unscramble the nine hints below (spaces are where they belong, but letters are scrambled between words), fill in the blanks with the answer and e-mail your solutions to gdt@hellskitchen.org. The first person to submit their correct answers claims a prize of twenty American dollars, will get their name printed in this wonderful publication and may also become privy to the secrets of "Cafe Diablo," the most diabolical coffee in the world (and the official drink of Hell Inc.). Hurry! Unless we decide to extend the contest, if we don't receive any winning submissions by Sunday, September 19th[¢], we'll just have to keep the money for our greedy selves! And we wouldn't want that, now would we?

1. ETUEMGOF OC EURHDENSA

2. SEHLEA ELEN NA YDG UFS NON TAWI

3. "LONUOI, TEROBL, EDDO BUE LBTDLAU"

4. "IFM TCTFH HR NHEEDI LT AHE OAS"

5. EBHOFG' E RNR CTEGEB GEO AORSJH

6. BTEH YRHYN AESEM SWLA AGRAPEASWFD

7. RANIATH IEA AYSOWW TWSA HL EEA NBCA

8. EROFRE IEDDHASMLH' L KTANAC

9. CAR. IMFMNKTT' M SSOSN SEAR



[®]Fame and fortune not guaranteed.

[¥]As of Sunday, September 12.

[¢]You probably still have them somewhere. We know the bookstore didn't give you any money for them, those stingy bastards.

[§]Just make your way past the unicyclists, hackey-sackers out front...

[¢]Arrr, ye heard us righty. We'll keep the booty and you'll get naught a penny!

Super Secret Fine Print (Official Rules):

Void where prohibited, but who knows where that is. This contest is restricted to current students of RIT. If you're not an RIT student, send in your answers anyway. You won't get the money, but won't you feel special? All submissions must be received by midnight September 19th, but *GDT* reserves the right to change that date. *GDT* staff members are prohibited from entering this contest, as well as any of their family members, lovers, pets or body parts. Any *GDT* staff members caught leaking information to the public at large will be given their choice of five delightful hideous executions, in addition to having to make a batch of Cafe Diablo for the staff. Parts of this writeup were shamelessly stolen from prior issues. Don't complain, imitation is flattery, or something like that. The *GDT* staff has final word on all contest decisions.

Ahoy!


By "Mad Kidd" Tom Samstag

It's not often that we at *Gracies Dinnertime Theatre* find a cause that we feel only appropriate to get behind 100%. Charities, special-interest groups, and on-campus organizations have all come to us looking for support, only to be turned away. Today, I'd like to announce that *GDT* has found a cause worthy of the attention of everybody, especially our friends, classmates, and faculty at RIT. That cause is International Talk Like A Pirate Day, on September 19th.

This Sunday, you too can participate by spending the day talking like a pirate, dressing like a pirate, and pillaging and plundering. RIT doesn't know what's going to hit it!

So tell yer hearties, and find ye a couple o' barrels o' grog for the big day. Sunday be the day when any landlubber can be the toughest corsair on the RIT seas. Ye hears it first from me, and yers best be listening to me, or I'll come down thar and keelhaul ye scum suckin', bottom feedin', bilge rat!

Ahoy! AVast!
Arrrrrr ye ready for ...



International Talk Like A Pirate Day?
Sept. 19th - this year and every year

www.talklikeapirate.com

ANIME CLUB

It's better than eating your own flesh.

Thursdays 8pm in Webb Auditorium, Building 7

Everybody's Wrong

By Peter C. Gravelle

You know, my Dad would be pretty pissed off to hear me say this, but the Republicans have some pretty good ideas: Small government, personal responsibility, individual rights, and lower taxes. Of course, the problem with this is that they make the government bigger¹, lower taxes so they can't pay for it, take away vital rights, and blame things on others.

On the other hand, the ideals of the Democratic Party are admirable: Properly funded social services, smaller military investments, and tolerance. But then they turn around and gut the oversight on the funding, leading to misuse at best, corruption at worst, they're declared weak by the military establishment, and are intolerant of people's rights to free association.

Our third party brethren are only better in that they haven't yet had a chance to allow their work through. The Greens environmental policies are wonderful, and I wish we could get the Democrats to pick up on some of their ideas, but I can tell we would lose a lot of our freedoms, even though we would gain a healthier planet. There must be a proper balance. And even though many of the ideals of Libertarianism are lovely, they are founded in a fantasy land where the free market can be perfectly trusted to bring vital social services, even though pure capitalism as a theory has been shown by many economists to bring certain "inefficiencies" such as wealth consolidation.

Everyone's wrong. Everyone will sell you out for the bigger money prize. And since votes equal money, politicians will do anything to get those votes to keep them on that gravy train. Even if it means being in the pockets of special interests.

But wait, weren't we told as children that we, too, were special? Indeed we were. "Special Interests" have been used as the great big bogey man in politics. Oh, we

mustn't blame the politicians, they are only beholden to the special interests². In reality, we are all special, and we all (should) have an interest in policies that affect us. However, we cannot all make it to Washington to argue our way to the politicians, so we pay others to do it. For instance, I've donated to the Electronic Frontier Foundation³ to help me protect my freedoms in this digitally-connected world.

Let's review our facts: Everybody's wrong, politicians are purchased with the same money you blew on that porno subscription on⁴, and you're special. The only fact here worth mentioning again is the fact that you *are* special. No, not in a ABC Afternoon Special sort of special⁵, but rather as special as any other citizen of a representative democracy. Just about every US citizen at this school is qualified to vote in the upcoming elections, but I'm willing to bet that very few of you are registered, and even those who are registered, are probably not going to vote this year for whatever reason. What in the fuck is wrong with you? Voting takes at most thirty seconds of your time (if voting by absentee). Most Boards of Elections have websites where you can download the appropriate forms⁶. And if you are registered locally, what is keeping you from the polls? Tell your professors you're going to vote that day, and I'm sure they'll help you get back on track with your work.

Vote your conscience. Even if that means that rather than voting for the best man for the job, you vote for the goal of preventing someone else of getting or keeping it. Personally, my goal for writing this is to get Bush out of office. But even if I get a few new life-long Republican voters into the mix, I will consider my job done here. Because if you believe that the system will never change, and don't vote, you will fail to surprise yourself.

¹ Department of Homeland Security, anyone?

² "They drove a dump truck full of money up to my house! I'm not made of stone, you know!" - Krusty the Klown

³ <http://www.eff.org/about> "Among our various activities, EFF opposes misguided legislation, initiates and defends court cases preserving individuals' rights, launches global public campaigns, introduces leading edge proposals and papers, hosts frequent educational events, engages the press regularly, and publishes a comprehensive archive of digital civil liberties information at one of the most linked-to websites in the world: <http://www.eff.org/>

⁴ You thought we wouldn't find out about that, didn't you? Now stop doing that or you'll go blind.

⁵ <http://homepages.ihug.co.nz/~g-b-dix/arguing1.jpg>

⁶ For other people registered in the great City of New York, you can request your absentee ballot by mailing in a printed out copy of this PDF: <http://vote.nyc.ny.us/pdf/forms/boe/absenteevoting/AbsEnglish.pdf>

C'mon, Everyone is doing it

Submissions of all
art forms accepted.



Written pieces should be in Word, plain text or RTF format. Visual art should be submitted at the highest resolution and dpi possible.

Give your time!

GDT meets Wednesdays at 8pm at Crossroads. We are always looking for people to help us edit, write, fold, distribute, cheer, get off and other fun activities.

gdt@hellskitchen.org



**Gracies
Dinnertime
Theatre™**

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